

Poison Prevention Tips

It is an unimaginable tragedy to lose a child. The sorrow is magnified if the death could have been prevented.

Many homes contain potential poisons for a child, such as detergent gel packs that resemble candy. To protect your child, keep cleaning products and other dangerous materials out of reach and ideally out of sight.

When using toxic products, develop the habit of staying focused on your task. Distractions may cause you to leave the items where your child can reach them. Accidents can happen in an instant.

Here are more tips to keep your child safe from potential hazards:

- ▲ **Read all product labels** to understand what is dangerous in the hands of your child.
- ▲ Teach your child what is safe to taste and to ask you if he or she is trying something new.
- ▲ **Store poisonous items in cabinets with child safety locks.**
- ▲ Safely dispose of expired medications and old cleaning and work supplies.
- ▲ Keep cleaning supplies in the container they came in to prevent them from being mistaken for something else.
- ▲ Buy child-resistant packages as often as you can.
- ▲ **Secure batteries of all sizes.**
If swallowed, they cause terrible injuries.
- ▲ Be aware of medications in your pocketbook. **Store them in a safe place.**
- ▲ **Check for lead.** If your home was built before 1978, the risk of lead paint is higher.
- ▲ Install a **Carbon Monoxide Alarm** to protect the family from an invisible killer.



Keep your child safe at home. Take steps to prevent household products from causing sickness or death.



2016 Virginia Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention

No permission is needed to duplicate this page for educational purposes.

1-800-552-7096 Virginia Child Abuse Hotline (language line available)

800-Children (800-244-5373) Parent Helpline